

# NEWARK COALITION FOR NEIGHBORHOODS

Minutes  
April 24, 1980

## Present:

N. Zak  
V. DeLuca  
C. Ortiz  
Z. Muhammad  
R. Rivera  
S. Knowles  
K. Wilson  
L. Stebbins  
T. Jarecke  
T. Suess  
D. Burgess  
M. Copeland

### 1. United Farm Workers

Daniel Romero presented the Farm Workers boycott program against Red Coach Lettuce. Of major stores, only Shop-rite and Stop & Shop are holding out. Coalition members thanked Daniel for coming.

### 2. Report from Carlos Ortiz

Progress on LEAA/ACTION grant was presented. Kean College student to do arson and displacement research for the Coalition. Bonnie Kerness, who has the required MSW and works for the Newark Justice Program, will act as supervisor. (Thanks, Bonnie!)

NCN is involved with the tenants of 30 Walnut St. (a classic case of displacement). Board members urged NCN staff to continue their work with the tenants. Attempts are being made to get building into receivership, and tenants and in some cases NCN staff have engaged in an arson-watch. Carlos urged NCN members to return the Essex County Housing Resource Center questionnaire.

### 3. Terri Suess

Terri and NCN members continue to keep the pressure on the city and on HUD on Block Grants. With help from City Council, the city was required to file a line-item budget.

### 4. Report of Trish Jarecke

Rutgers University is cooperating with the project by allowing NCN to make use of their computers. Doug Brown from the County Executive's Office will make bank reinvestment materials available to NCN organizations. There is currently a bill before the State Assembly on insurance disclosure. It should be amended to insure full public insurance disclosure.

### 5. LaGreta Stebbins

"We Shall Not Be Moved" film ordered.  
A motion was made, seconded, and passed that eight staff and Displacement Committee members be sent to the National Low Income Conference. The total cost will be \$282.

There will be a financial report at the next meeting.

### 6. Joan Butler (Media Specialist)

Suggestions were made on improving internal organization and public relations. An NCN newsletter will be explored.

### 7. Zakiyyah Muhammad (Participation Coordinator)

Zakiyyah is making contact with all NCN members and friends. New contacts with the South Ward have been made.



8. NCN Open House

An NCN Open House will be held May 28 or 29 (the date is not yet firm). Both representatives from both funding sources and the general public will be invited.

9. NAN Regional Office

After considerable discussion, the motion was made that "NCN accept the concept of setting up a regional National Association of Neighborhoods" regional office, and NCN will sponsor a planning session to explore its feasibility.

10. NAN Platform

The motion was made that NCN sponsor a mini-convention before June 3, inviting presidential candidates to appear before the public, giving their responses to the NCN platform. The motion died for lack of a second, NCN members feeling that the time was too short and resources unavailable to set up such a convention.

11. Meeting with Mayor Gibson

Francis Copeland has tried to reach the Mayor to set up a meeting, but he has been unavailable, partly because of personal problems. We will wait until next meeting to try again.

12. CETA Cuts

Many of our member organizations face cuts in CETA staffing. A meeting will be called together by Carlos to work on this common problem.

Bill Watson  
Secretary Pro Tem

NEXT MEETING: MAY 15, 1980, at 7:30 p.m.